

Memorandum

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TO : Director of Training EYES ONLY

DATE: 11 January 1965

FROM : Chief, School of International Communism

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report No. 1
28 December 1964 - 11 January 1965

I. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

II. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. As you recall, we had been rather concerned that [] while understandable, represented a somewhat wasteful expenditure of funds. The initial request, which was the basis for the trip, had been for two three-hour sessions. Fortunately, once he arrived on the scene the program was expanded considerably. He provided four three-hour sessions for a group []

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[] some of whom were quite senior in rank, having already retired from the military service. The following topics were discussed: doctrine, organization, clandestine activities, fronts, political action, and current Communist tactical problems.

In addition he ran two seminars for station officers, discussing the status of the Communist movement, which were attended by a total of 32, and had lengthy discussions with two individual station officers on substantive problems about which they asked his opinion. In all, [] felt that it was useful and well-received. He commented particularly about the courtesy which was extended to him by the station, including [] with whom he spent about 30 minutes, and who sent his best regards. In the event that the station confirms [] judgment that this went over reasonably well it would probably be wise to send [] back in March -- since the fifteen officers to be trained at that time will presumably be selected from among the thirty-nine with whom he has already worked.

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2. Motivated in part by a lurking suspicion that we ourselves were perhaps somewhat responsible for the lackluster four weeks that we spent with our last JOT group, and in part by the fact that we try to do this systematically at the beginning of each year, we had a detailed review this week of our contribution to the JOT program. We made an effort to expand this examination beyond a merely routine look at assignment of times, responsibilities, lectures vs readings, and so on, and to look once again at the whole concept behind a four-week allocation of time to Communism. In a sense, we tried to address ourselves to the questions of what the students brought with them in the way of a view of the concepts and objectives of Communism in the current world scene, and what they took away with them as modifications, expansions, or complete changes in those views. Do we provide an analysis at the proper level of sophistication? Do we develop understanding of concepts, or do we merely cram them full of facts soon forgotten? Do we engender a real appreciation of the complexities of the constantly changing world scene and how the Communists attempt to exploit those complexities? More specifically, do we provide them with a broader awareness of the problems which this Agency faces in both analyzing and operating against the Communist movement?

Our discussion did not provide me, nor can I provide you, with a loud, clear, completely affirmative answer to each of these questions. We still have a great deal of work to do, and we'll have to make frequent changes and adjustments. However, I'm convinced that, in essentials, we're on target. The discussion led us to make a number of changes such as: the inclusion of detailed case presentations of Communism in Vietnam and Cuba, the expansion of coverage of KGB and GRU organization and activities, the addition of Fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism (Moscow, 1963) as a basic course text, and more emphasis, wherever possible, upon relating substance to specific Agency requirements and problems. There were some other changes relating to the proper balance of subjects -- none of them major -- but all, hopefully, adding up to a more useful and more stimulating four weeks.

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3. I met last week with John Keppel, the new Chairman of FSI's Communist Strategy course. [] had requested that I provide the one additional service of passing along to Keppel the opinions and suggestions which SIC might have about the objectives and problems of the course. As I suspected might very well be the case -- since Keppel was personally selected by George Morgan -- he appears to share Mr. Morgan's notion that this should be a highly sophisticated seminar for foreign service professionals, not a catch-all basic course catering to a broader clientele. As you know, I do not share

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this view, and for what it was worth I defended the position that both as a public service and a public relations process for the Department of State it had been, and could continue to be, extremely valuable. I also suggested to Keppel that if other foreign service officers made the same assumption that he's making, namely that there is already a high level of sophistication about this subject in the ranks of the foreign service (which I evaluate as quite erroneous), then he would end up with no clientele at all since there would be no requirement for such a course. My comments seemed to shake his convictions somewhat, and it seems clear that his final position will not emerge for some months. Meanwhile, we will continue to participate as usual -- with any decisions about our future role in the course in abeyance. I might add that we all feel that our long-time involvement in this activity, while at times a nuisance, has generally been stimulating and has given us a sense of pride and gratification in having made a useful additional contribution to the government's effort in this field. In addition, it has been the initial contact point for many of the other external activities in which we are now involved.

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4. ^{c/sic} X continues to be astonished at receiving an invitation from Ambassador Randall at American University to speak to his class of business men. This must, in some fashion, reflect a strange twist in the make-up of the American business executive. Randall commented that this past group had been rather hostile and difficult to handle, but that they had enjoyed my ^{c/sic} presentation -- in which I had provided them with overwhelming evidence that they -- particularly because of their involvement in US foreign business activities -- were representative of the most vicious, most rapacious, most reactionary, most imperialist segment of US monopoly capitalism. I have been requested to expand this diatribe from one and one-half to three hours!

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5. [] attended the Effective Listening program on Friday, and came away with conflicting reactions. [] felt that the technique would have very limited usefulness [] felt that, although too much time was involved for what resulted, the emphasis upon self-discipline and organization provided a useful technique for sharpening retention capabilities.

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6. External Presentation:

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7. Tutorial Training:

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AM - 5 January - American

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